DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE AND ALL ITS VARIOUS KINDRED ARTS AND SCIENCES.

Honor waits, o'er all the earth, The art that calls her harvests forth.—BRYANT.

VOL. I. SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 1849. NO. 6.

S. W. COLE, EDITOR. QUINCY HALL, BOSTON. J. NOURSE, PROPRIETOR.

PREPARE IMPLEMENTS.

Before spring's work commences, farmers should have all their implements in readiness, whether they purchase or make them. Wheels, carts, ploughs, harrows, drags, rollers, and various other implements and machines should all be in good order in due time, that there may be no delay in the busy season for want of these useful things.

A farmer who has timber, and is ingenious, or can get a neighbor who is skilled in the use of tools to assist him, can often construct coarse, rude implements cheaper than he can buy them. But small tools, and all machines and implements that require nice work, may be purchased at a much cheaper rate than the farmer can make them.

It will cost a farmer three times as much to construct a plough in the old-fashioned mode of employing the carpenter and blacksmith, as it will to buy ploughs of the best construction. And the improved ploughs now sold at the agricultural stores require so much less draught than the old, rude implements, that they are cheaper at the usual prices than the home-made ploughs are at nothing. These remarks are unnecessary, at the present day, in most parts of the country.

Some tools have been so much improved, that they bid defiance to all competition, excepting that which has been the result of long experience, great ingenuity, and expensive implements and machinery in their construction; and it is far better for the farmer to buy such superior tools at a moderate price, than to use heavy, bungling implements, if he could have them as a present.

Let a farmer procure his implements as he may, he should now commence his preparations, if he is not already about it; for spring, with its long, busy train of operations, will soon be upon us, and we must be careful, lest, in the sudden change from the rigid cold of winter to the genial warmth of spring, old Time shall gain an advantage, and find us unprepared. A good preparation for spring and summer's work, by having all implements prepared and of the best construction, is a great deal towards the accomplishment of the labor.

EVERGREENS FOR SHEEP.

Evergreens are not only excellent food for sheep, which may often be used to considerable extent as a matter of economy, but they are very wholesome as a green food when sheep are kept long on dry fodder. Sometimes evergreens may be used as a matter of necessity, when hay is scarce, and save animals from great suffering and starvation, which occasionally occur from unusually long and cold winters. Colds and other diseases in sheep have been cured by the use of evergreens.

Pines of different kinds are among the best evergreens for sheep; hemlock is also excellent; spruce and fir, if not equally good, are very useful. Sheep are fond of browse of almost every description. They bear with difficulty a long confinement to dry fodder, and they should be relieved by the use of roots, evergreens, or browse; all of which they eat with great eagerness.

PURE AIR FOR ANIMALS.

As the weather becomes warm, those farmers who have been careful to make their animals comfortable by close buildings, during the cold winter, should be equally careful to supply them with pure air, as warm weather approaches. If many animals are in the same apartment, or near each other, in close shelters, and exposed to the gases arising from the manure, the atmosphere around them becomes contaminated, and the animals are very liable to become diseased.

In ventilating a barn or stable while the weather is rather cool or chilly, carefully avoid directing a fresh draught directly on the animals, for, like human beings, they are liable to colds, under great exposure. Plaster, charcoal powder, and various other absorbents, spread on the floor where stock are kept, are excellent for imbibing the gases arising from manures, and rendering the air pure. Common earth, of almost every description, as loam, sand, gravel, pulverized peat, and sods, &c., are good absorbents, tending to render the air purer, and save the manure; and some of these are within the reach of every farmer in the country.

SOWING GRASS SEED IN MARCH.

When the land is well prepared the previous fall, March, as soon as the ground is bare, is a very favorable time for sowing grass seed. Those farmers who sow herdsgrass and red top late in August and early in September, omit sowing clover till March, as it is liable to be winter-killed if sown at the time of the other grass.

Some sow nearly all their grass seed in March, preferring it to all other seasons. But when the land is ready for sowing late in summer, or early in fall, that season is preferable, as the grass will get a start and yield a larger crop than if sown in March. Yet when the land is not prepared till late in autumn, the most favorable time for sowing is March. If the land be in good condition, the crop will be pretty good. We have sown seed in the middle of March, and had a crop so large that some of it lodged. When sown at this season, no harrowing, brushing, or raking in of the seed is necessary; and these operations on the wet land, would be far worse than useless. The seed falling on the wet soil is sure to vegetate before it is warm enough to dry the surface of the soil.

We have been astonished at the amount of water the seed would sustain, not only without any injury, but with the best success. We have sown grass seed in March, when there were puddles of water that we could not drain off, as the ground was frozen. We sowed seed on the water, supposing that it would vegetate after the water disappeared; and it has often vegetated the earliest and best when sown on the water, which shows the hardy nature of the seed as well as of the grass.

OSAGE ORANGE FOR HEDGES.

Some of our friends have made inquiries as to the value of the Osage orange for hedges. It has been tried in the west and highly recommended. As we have seen at our exhibitions fruit of this plant, it has doubtless been tried in this section, and we should be pleased to learn whether it is hardy in this climate, and whether plants are for sale sufficiently low for the use of hedges. We copy the following article from the Prairie Farmer, an excellent paper, published at Chicago, Illinois.

Having watched with some interest the experiments made with different shrubs for hedge, (which have generally failed,) I am highly pleased with a large nursery of the Osage orange belonging to Mr. Young, of Jerseyville. It looks to me more like material for a live fence than any thing I have ever before seen. And although rather incredulous, (having never paid a dollar for multicaulis, Rohan potatoes, or Baden corn,) I have engaged four thousand trees for next year's planting. They are to be set about one foot apart, in the fence row, and are to be ploughed or hoed till they get a good start. One advantage possessed by the orange is, it is thickly set with remarkably short and stiff thorns; and, unlike all other thorn, it is of a rapid growth, and will make a fence in three or four years sufficient to turn any thing, from a rabbit up — growing from six to eight feet in one summer. It has a straight tap-root, and, like the hickory, never sprouts from the root, but always from the stump when cut or broken down; it will stand very thick in the hedge, and if a patch is killed by fire or any other means, its durability is almost equal to live oak, and will stand a dead thorn bush, that nothing will touch, until plants can be raised in their place. Mr. Y. will sell them at one dollar per hundred.

WHEAT AFFECTED BY MANURE.

The following article, from Colman, shows very different qualities in wheat, produced from the use of different manures. Whether literally correct or not, there is no doubt that this, like many other analyses, approaches near the truth. It is well known by bakers that there is a great difference in the qualities of wheat raised on different soils. Those who use paste of wheat flour find that wheat raised in some sections is superior for that purpose, as it contains a large amount of gluten.

Quality of Wheat. — That the qualities of wheat grown depend to a considerable degree upon the kind of manure employed, there can be no doubt. Some experiments in reference to this matter, made by a German farmer, may be interesting to our readers.

Wheats manured as underneath, produced as follow: —

		Gluten.	*Starch.*
1.	With human urine, . . .	35.1 . .	39.3
2.	" oxen's blood, . . .	34.2 . .	41.3
3.	" human excrements, .	33.1 . .	41.1
4.	" dung of sheep, . .	22.9 . .	42.8
5.	" dung of goats, . .	32.9 . .	42.4
6.	" " " horses, . .	13.7 . .	61.6
7.	" " " pigeons, . .	12.2 . .	63.2
8.	" " " cows, . .	12.0 . .	62.3
9.	Soil not manured, . . .	9.2 . .	66.7

It is impossible to say how far these experiments are to be depended on; and how far they have been confirmed by other experiments made with the same intention. Two things are quite remarkable in respect to them; the one is the different qualities of grain grown with manures of the greatest efficacy, and that grown without any manure, being a difference of nine and thirty-five; and the comparatively low result of pigeon's dung, which is generally rated very highly, and supposed to take its place with guano. The manner in which the animals whose manure was used for the experiments were fed, is a circumstance which may have materially affected the result; for the qualities of the manure of the same animals, under different courses of feeding, may be expected to be composed of different elements, and so to give different results; so complicated necessarily are all experiments of this kind.

WOOD AND COAL ASHES.

Mr. Franklin Wiggin, of Stratham, N. H., inquires for something more definite in regard to the experiment of Dr. Shurtleff, in raising potatoes, and using ashes in the manure, as published on the twenty-third page of this volume. In regard to the coal ashes, we would answer, that the term is applied exclusively to the ashes of anthracite and bituminous coal, not to charcoal dust. Anthracite is hard coal, and bituminous is soft coal, as named in the article referred to. As Mr. Wiggin wishes to know the proportions of coal ashes, wood ashes, and horse manure, in Dr. Shurtleff's experiment, he will much oblige us by answering the inquiry.

A Group in the Flock of S. W. Jewett, Esq., Weybridge, Vt.

MERINO SHEEP.

At an early period, several races of sheep received particular attention in Spain, and the Merinos held a conspicuous rank, and were brought to a high state of improvement, and were the most distinguished race in that country. But the laws were strict against their exportation until the invasion of Spain by the French, when the confiscation of some flocks, and some owners being under the necessity of selling, rendered their acquisition more convenient, and large numbers were sent to this country about forty years ago. Hon. William Jarvis, Chancellor Livingston, and Gen. David Humphreys are distinguished for their enterprise in introducing this valuable race of animals into our country.

The Merinos are the principal sheep in the United States for fine wool, and this is the leading object with those who keep them. They are hardy and adapted to different climates and locations. Their fleece is of a moderate size, but short and very compact, and well filled with yolk, which protects the animal against inclement weather. For the shambles they are inferior to our common native breed, or the South Down, Leicester, and other foreign breeds celebrated for excellent mutton.

In various sections of our country, large flocks of Merinos have been kept with profit; and although they have been long in the country, and extensively propagated and disseminated, yet first-rate animals of this breed still sell at high prices.

BLACK PRINCE STRAWBERRY.

This strawberry is a foreign variety, of recent introduction, and it has not yet been tried extensively in this country, but it is very promising. As Mr. Eaton had made experiments on this strawberry, we wrote to him for his opinion concerning it; and though his answer was in a private correspondence, we take the liberty to offer to the public his valuable remarks on this strawberry.

Thompson, in the Catalogue of the Horticultural Society of London, has placed against the Black Prince Strawberry the character or mark signifying "that it has been ascertained to be of inferior quality," and remarks of it, that it is a "shy bearer." Kenrick, in his Orchardist, following this high authority, places it among the "outcasts."

It is a pistillate variety, and highly productive. Its sterility in the Society's gardens was probably owing to its being grown without a staminate in its vicinity. The high character given to it by Mr. Downing induced me to make a trial of it, and I procured my vines from him. It is much superior to most of the varieties which of late years have been introduced into notice, and I believe it will become a favorite with *amateur cultivators*. The vines are hardy, standing the winter without protection, and very vigorous in their growth. The fruit is of an ovate form, of a dark color, nearly black, with a fine glossy surface, rendering it very beautiful; flesh is juicy, rich, and delicious, but not of very high flavor; ripens from fifteenth of June to first of July. It is not so well adapted to culture for the market as some other varieties, the flesh not being sufficiently firm to bear carriage so well, and its period of ripening not being of long duration.

Yours, &c. L. C. EATON.

PROVIDENCE, R. I. *Jan.* 1849.

For the New England Farmer.

COAL ASHES FOR MANURE.—GRAPES.

FRIEND COLE: In looking over the debates in the last two numbers of thy valuable paper, on the subject of manures, I do not find any notice taken of anthracite coal ashes. It occurred to me that it might be profitably used as an absorbent, or medium to take up the urine, &c., in our vaults, for the reception of chamber water from the house. Why would it not take the place of charcoal or plaster? Perhaps the thing has been fully tested, but as I had not seen an article on the subject, I thought it well

worthy of notice, in these days of economy, when coal is our cheapest fuel, and wood is becoming too expensive for common use.

I am not desirous of appearing before the public with my small experience in horticulture, and still smaller ability of telling what *I do know;* but one experiment of mine, which succeeded to a charm last season, I think it would be well to lay before our horticultural brethren who are "known by their fruits," and that is the engrafting of the grape.

I took my cuttings from the Diana Grape, (which is the best native hibrid I know of,) at the usual time of pruning in the fall, and laid them in the earth out doors until the first of August, and then inserted them into our common native grape by cleft grafting near the earth, and soon had the satisfaction of seeing my effort crowned with complete triumph over what I had before supposed an impracticability, having failed in every former effort, from the fact of not knowing the *exact time* to do it — to guard against bleeding or drying up. I am confident we can now forward the Diana, Isabella, and Catawba, so as to count on their crops with as much certainty as we can on the Indian corn crop, — believing, as I do, that the early habits of our native will have a tendency to shorten the time needful to ripen the above-named varieties. My Diana Grapes ripened about two weeks before the Isabella. I therefore place them in the following order as to time of ripening: 1st, Diana; 2d, Isabella; 3d, Catawba.

Respectfully,

JAMES OLIVER.

Lynn, 2d *Mo.* 17, 1849.

Editorial Remarks.

Coal ashes are a good manure for all kinds of lands. We have seen excellent effects from their use; and in some experiments we have found them very useful. Yet we are not prepared to say what is their value, nor to what lands and crops they are best adapted; but we may give the result of experiments at some future time, after varied experiments. We have found them excellent for turnips on a clayey soil; but this was a single experiment.

We are pleased to learn that the Diana Grape is so early. It has been doubtful whether it would be any earlier than the Isabella, and some think that it will be as late as its parent, the Catawba. We find the Diana very hardy, and of luxuriant growth. The fruit is excellent, and from our experience and observation, we have thought that it was a little earlier than the Isabella.

SWINE.

At the fifth agricultural meeting at the State House, February 13, Hon. M. P. Wilder in the chair, the subject was Farm Stock; but the discussion was on swine.

The president read a letter from Mr. Wilkinson, the principal of Mount Airy Institute, Germantown, Pa., giving a highly favorable account of the Dutchess County breed of hogs, a cross of the Berkshire and Leicester breeds, which he made while in the state of New York. He considers them the best breed.

Mr. Josiah Stickney, of Boston, gave an account of the Suffolk and Middlesex breeds, which he had imported and propagated. He said that their being poor breeders, as had been stated at a previous meeting, was owing to high keeping. They breed well with common keeping. They fatten well at any age, and more readily than other breeds. At eight months old, with good keeping, they weigh about two hundred pounds; at one year, three hundred pounds; and at eighteen months, four hundred pounds. Their pork is superior, and sells at extra prices. By mixing the Suffolk and Middlesex breeds, the former was improved in size, without any apparent deterioration in quality. As to form, the Suffolk are not long, nor long-legged, small bones, thick set, not round, but rather deep.

Mr. David Haggerston said, that while on the farm of Mr. Cushing, he had considerable experience with the Berkshire, Mackay, and China breeds. He preferred the Mackays; the Berkshires were good for hams: the China was the poorest. He had tried the Neapolitan, but gave them up, as they were much like the China. He said, that there appeared to be two kinds of Mackays; one breed were workers, in making manure; the other breed was indolent. The first cross of different breeds will be an improvement; further crossing will cause deterioration. He had seen the Suffolk breed, and he liked their appearance very much.

Mr. Stickney said, that he imported three China pigs, and as he did not like the breed, he gave them away.

Hon. Mr. Brooks remarked, that what had been said did not alter his opinion as to imported stock. The gain of the Suffolk breed, as stated by Mr. Stickney, was no more than what was common with our native hogs, as they often gain over a pound a day. He said, that a hog would not grow so well with high keeping as with moderate fare. He asked Mr. Stickney the cost of making pork. Mr. S. had not estimated it, but he could keep three Suffolk as cheap as he could two of common breeds.

Mr. Wilder said, that the Suffolk pigs fattened easily.

Mr. William Parker, of Boston, said, that he had seen them, and he was much pleased with their appearance. There was a pleasure in having handsome animals.

Mr. Buckminster, of the Ploughman, said, that he hoped that no great stories would be told of the Suffolk breed, as all would be running into them. It is best to learn their true value. He fattened one very easily last fall. They have small bones, small head, nose, and tail.

Mr. Cheever Newhall, of Dorchester, said, that he found it more profitable to buy hogs at Brighton, and fatten them, than to raise them; and he thought that a gain of one pound a day was very good.

Mr. Elijah Perry, of Dover, thought it was very difficult to ascertain which was the best breed, unless an exact account was kept of the cost of keeping.

Mr. H. C. Merriam, of Tewksbury, said that he found from experiments that pigs from old sows were larger than those from young ones, under the same management.

Mr. A. G. Sheldon, of Wilmington, said, that some

years ago, he went into the state of New York, and purchased what is called the grass-fed breed. From these he made selections, which proved to be very valuable. The Berkshires had been extolled too high, and he was the first that spoke against them in that house. Yet they had been valuable in crosses, and they were now valued too low. He had a cross of the Berkshire and grass-fed breed, which were excellent. As to feeding swine, no one thing is so good as every thing. They do best on variety. He thought imported hogs not so good as our natives, yet they make an improvement by crosses. He had found, contrary to his prejudice, that the pork of hogs fed on slaughter-house offal was very sweet. They eat nothing excepting what persons eat, but it is in a different state.

Mr. H. B. Pearson, of Harvard, said that he had an excellent breed of hogs, which he had kept eight years, without deterioration. He keeps as many hogs as cows, feeds with skimmed milk in summer, with small potatoes after the season of digging, and at last with corn. The pork was sweet and cheap.

Mr. Brooks said, that sixty quarts, or one hundred and twenty pounds, of skimmed milk would make eight pounds of cheese, weighed when six weeks old, worth four cents per pound, which is about half a cent per quart for the milk; ten quarts, or twenty pounds, of skimmed milk will make one pound of pork, worth six and a half cents, which is six and a half mills per quart for the milk; or sixty quarts of milk will make six pounds of pork, worth thirty-nine cents. He said, that he was not in favor of working hogs. Working hogs will not fatten well. He thought it was better to mix soil with the manure, and put it under a shelter.

Mr. Proctor, president of Essex Agricultural Society, made a few remarks only, owing to the lateness of the hour; but he has kindly furnished us with the following interesting communication.

Mr. Editor: As you were pleased to express an interest in the facts which I communicated to you to-day, relative to the feeding of swine and the making of manure by their aid, on the town farm in Danvers, I will endeavor to state them as distinctly as I may, as learned from Mr. W. Merrill, chairman of the overseers, and Mr. Hathaway, master of the house. I have frequently seen their mode of management, and have entire confidence in what they say.

The town farm is situate about two miles from the village. About one hundred acres of it are under cultivation. The soil is naturally shallow, and is made productive by judicious culture and the application of manure, most of which is obtained from the hog yards.

On this farm there are usually kept from twenty-five to thirty hogs. The practice is, to purchase the shotes from the drover, when they are about six months old, and to keep them about six months. The swine are slaughtered twice in the year, in the spring and in the autumn.

During the year ending March, 1848, —		
50 pigs were purchased at a cost of		$285 00
40 of these pigs were sold to the butchers for	$1012 00	
10 were retained for the use of the house, estimated	223 00	
Amount of produce of pork,	$1235 00	
Value of proceeds over and above the first cost,		$950 00

being an average value of nineteen dollars. Their average weight when purchased is estimated to have been one hundred pounds. Their average weight when slaughtered, after having been kept six months, is estimated to have been three hundred pounds. Consequently the average growth of the pigs would be about one and one ninth pounds per day. This growth, when we take into view the manure and expense of their feed, is worthy of notice. The principal part of the feed of the hogs is derived from the offal obtained at the slaughter-houses in town, and also from the dressing of the heads and feet. This is prepared for the hogs by the inmates of the house, who have the care of them. No grain is given them until within six weeks of their being slaughtered. Then they are allowed as much as they will consume without waste. A main object in the keeping of these hogs, is to secure the manure made by them for the improvement of the farm, which exceeds one hundred loads annually.

Convenient apartments for their feed and lodging are arranged on the northerly and westerly sides of the yard. The yard extends about ten rods by four, is lower in the centre than on the sides — covered with small stones. Twice in the year it is covered with a coating of mud from the swamps and meadows near by, say from nine to twelve inches deep. Near by the yard is a pump, from which the swine are daily supplied freely with pure water, in which they delight to move in the warm season. All the waste vegetables and other materials that are found about the farm and the kitchen, are deposited in the yard for the use of the hogs. The benefits accruing from this department of labor are thought to be greater than any other on the farm. It will be remembered that at an establishment of this kind there will always be found old and feeble persons, who can attend to these duties, who cannot do much labor in the fields. It will also be recollected that the shotes are selected from the droves by experienced persons, and that they have so long been accustomed thus to rear swine, that they now have some pride in succeeding well. I am well aware that single hogs, and sometimes two or three together, have been known to gain a pound and a half a day; but I think it is not common for a herd of fifty together to average a gain of one pound per day.

I am induced to communicate these facts in consequence of the interest awakened at the agricultural meeting, relative to the comparative value of the different breeds of swine. If you will refer to the experiment made by Mr. Francis Dodge, lately published in the Transactions of the Essex Society, you will find the average growth of his seven hogs was less than one pound a day, notwithstanding they were reared on a first-rate farm, and abundantly fed with the products of the dairy, and with grain. The small expense of the feed of the swine on the town farm constitutes a distinguishing characteristic in their management. I presume the offal is purchased for less than half that it would require to purchase grain for the same animals. This offal also contributes very materially to increase the quantity of manure. My own belief is, that manure thus made is the best that can be had for the growth of Indian corn, and that Indian corn, viewed in all its bearings, is one of the very best crops to be cultivated by Massachusetts farmers.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J. W. P.

Danvers, *Feb.* 19, 1849.

NEAT CATTLE.

At the agricultural meeting on Tuesday evening, Hon. Mr. Leonard, of Norton, vice-president, in the

chair, — the subject, Farm Stock, — the discussion was on Neat Cattle.

The president said, that he had only attended to native stock: the subject was broad, and he invited gentlemen generally to take a part in the discussion.

Mr. Buckminster, of the Ploughman, said, that the Massachusetts Agricultural Society imported Devons and Ayrshires a few years ago, and we have heard but little about them. He had a bull and heifer of the Devon stock, that did well on common keeping, but he could not determine whether they would be superior. He was much pleased with their form and color. Generally, imported stock was no better than native.

J. W. Proctor, Esq., of Danvers, said, that he considered our native stock as descendants of the Devons. He thought our native cows were the best. In his neighborhood, the Oaks and Nourse cows had been noted for their dairy qualities. He thought the Ayrshires the best cows for milk. The Durhams are not noted for milk, and they require extra keeping. He then made a few remarks on the management of swine, which appear in his communication on another page. In answer to inquiries, Mr. P. remarked, that he knew of no descendants of the Oaks or Nourse cow.

Hon. J. C. Gray said, that in regard to our native cattle, they were well managed, in some cases, as to keeping, but not in breeding. No pedigree is kept. It has been said, that the North Devons of England do not give an abundance of milk, but it is of a good quality. Our best native cows do not produce their like. He had a calf from Captain Randall's importation, which made a good cow, but she was small. Our climate is favorable to cattle, and much improvement may be made by breeding from our best natives, and crossing with foreign stock.

Mr. Sheldon, of Wilmington, said, that by crossing with the Durhams, our cattle had been improved for working oxen and for beef, but not for milk. No one kind is best for all purposes.

Mr. Elmer Brigham, of Westboro', said, that stock should be adapted to the farm and purposes required. For working hogs, he would select what he should call the *Rhinoceros* breed. We have no native breed of cattle. Our natives are of all shapes and colors; but no breed that can be relied on. Imported stock has made an improvement in our cattle. We can have fine animals of our native cattle. He had for years raised native cattle with care, and he was sure of good animals.

Mr. H. B. Pearson, of Harvard, inquired of Mr. Brigham, the marks of a bull that would produce a good milking cow.

Mr. Brigham replied, that he would select a bull from a cow having good marks and a good character as a milker.

Mr. Proctor said, that the gentleman had answered well. When young, he knew several generations of cattle, continuing for fifteen years, all excellent milkers. We should select the bulls and heifers from the best milkers, and avoid associating animals together that are kindred.

Mr. H. C. Merriam, of Tewksbury, said, that different breeds were adapted to different locations. Great improvement had been made in our native stock by the introduction of foreign breeds. There is a greater number of fine cattle in Worcester county than in any other section of the state, and a number of fine bulls had been sent into that county. A bull of the Gore breed was sent into that county. This was the Holderness breed; and when a calf he was given to Governor Gore, by Hon. John Welles. The bull Denton, sent out by Mr. Williams to his brother of Northboro', was used in that county; and then the bull Admiral, presented to the state society by Admiral Coffin, was bought by Mr. Welles, and presented by him to the Worcester society. He was a pure short-horn.

Mr. Cole, of the New England Farmer, said, that he differed from gentlemen who said that we had no native breed of cattle. The descendants of animals that had long been in this country were natives. In Maine, many farmers had carefully bred the native stock, and raised excellent animals; and native cattle could be found in that state equal to any breed, native or foreign, in the country. Some of the finest cows in this state were bred there. Foreign breeds are valuable in making improvements in crossing. Some complain that our finest native cows will not produce their like. The great difficulty is, some are impatient, and do not make a fair trial. It is a principle of breeders that the good qualities of a fine animal descend in the opposite sex. The females resemble the sire, the males the dam. We should look for the properties of a cow, not in her heifers, but in the heifers from her bulls. Whether this be correct or not, it should be tested.

Mr. Brooks, of Princeton, said, that in breeding to any purpose, he would have particular regard to the bull, as he had the greatest influence. For raising milking stock, he would select a bull having the marks of a good milking cow. He thought the introduction of a foreign stock had improved our native cattle. The bull Denton improved them for milk. One cow from him gave milk constantly for fourteen years, having a calf every year.

Mr. Rice, of Boston, gave an account of some superior cows which he once owned, of foreign stock, or a cross of foreign breed. He said, several fine foreign bulls had been sent into Maine, which might be one cause of specimens of fine stock there, which is called native.

For the New England Farmer.

CARE OF STOCK.

Friend Cole: It is presumed that every careful stock owner, or at least every intelligent reader of the New England Farmer, who has the care of stock, knows how to manage cattle in a manner that will cause a profitable return to the owner, while, in the mean time, comfort is imparted to the animal; for my opinion is, that the beasts of the earth are capable of realizing comfortable fare just in proportion to the scale of their instinct, when compared with the keen relish and sensitive enjoyment of him who is lord of the brute. Every one who regularly visits the barn, of course uses the pitchfork to the satisfaction, or at least comfort, of his animals; but I

have good reasons for supposing that the visitor of the stable does not, at all times, with a commendable degree of diligence and regularity, apply the card or curry-comb to the animals.

In this way, a little time, with a moderate amount of labor, is well expended; therefore do not fail to apply the proper implement to the *whole* surface of every animal that needs it, from the noblest occupant of the farmer's stall down to the yearlings, some of which may be affected with a *live* misfortune about the neck. Apply the proper remedies in connection with the card.

If the beasts are not used to the operation, they may not at first stand still; but begin gently, in connection with a word of kindness, which will have a marked effect in subduing creatures that would not otherwise remain under the hand of the owner. I shall be excused even if I go so far as to say, step into the stable before breakfast, or at least before the cattle are untied in the morning, and brush off the spangled frost and straighten the hair; the operation may generate a moderate amount of electricity or heat by the use of the comb or brush, and the stock will thrive the better, and be more profitable. I.

For the New England Farmer.

AN INSECT DESTRUCTIVE TO FRUIT TREES.

Mr. Editor: The two past years I have been annoyed with an insect which appears to be destructive to fruit trees. Its ravages have been chiefly confined to the plum and English cherry. The attack is made when the tree is in full foliage, and while the fruit is green. The first appearance is that of a sluggish or mucilaginous substance, somewhat resembling a small snail, deposited on the leaf, having very little appearance of life. In a few days it makes its way over the leaf, leaving it perforated and withered; and in a week or two, the whole tree has a dry and withered appearance. I have, as yet, been unsuccessful in finding a remedy.

Yours truly,

JAMES ALLEN.

Bangor, Me. *Jan.* 1849.

Editorial Remarks.

We suppose that the insect referred to is the cherry slug. If so, it is very easily destroyed by the application of wood ashes or powdered lime, as these substances adhere to the slimy surface of the insects, and readily destroy them. These slugs are very destructive, but this remedy is easy and effectual.

A NEW ESCULENT.

A mediate effect of the fatal potato malady has been that of exciting inquiry and discussion on the subject of an accessory, or substitute for the now indispensable tuber. In some quarters, prizes have been offered in furtherance of the object — in this country by the Society of Arts, and on the Continent by the Brussels Academy of Sciences. The bulletin of the latter institution for the present year contains an account of a new root, communicated by one of the members, (M. Morren,) which we consider sufficiently important to deserve further publicity. The plant in question is a tuberous variety of the *Tropæoleæ*, known as *Capucines* in France, comprising twenty distinct species, among which the ornamental and pungent Indian cress is familiar to horticulturists. It grows spontaneously in Peru, and is largely cultivated as an article of food, under the name of *Mayua*, in the province of Popayan, at a height of 10,000 feet above the sea level, as described by Humboldt in 1801.

The mayua grows with sometimes as many as fifteen tubers to a root: these are the average size of our potatoes, and are round, kidney-formed, or pegtop shaped, according to kind. Their color is bright yellow, with rays of reddish-purple or scarlet diverging from the eyes, which are deeply set.

With regard to the edible qualities of the mayua, M. Morren's experience will perhaps be best given in his own words. After premising that the Peruvians and some of his compatriots had preceded him in the matter of tasting, he observes, "When I rubbed the tubers exteriorly, my olfactory organ became sensible of an agreeable aroma, delicate and tenderly perfumed. There was no earthy smell, as in the potato.

"When cut, a delicious odor exhales, mingled with a certain subacidity by no means repulsive; on the contrary, attractive to the palate.

"Eaten raw, the root produces a rich, smooth, unctuous savor, which lasts but a short time, and is all at once succeeded by a piquant, peppery taste, exciting the tongue somewhat as ginger. This spicy taste afterwards disappears, and leaves in the mouth a pleasing perfume and agreeable coolness.

"From this I was led to conclude that the tubers of the mayua should be eaten raw, cut in slices as salad, or with meat. I have never experienced any ill effects from eating it in this way, and my family relish it equally with myself.

"I next had the tubers boiled. My cook remarked that they required more salt than our potatoes; but what struck us was, that all the perfumed and piquant taste had entirely disappeared. A modification had taken place, the study of which I recommend to the attention of chemists; for the root, when cooked, has exactly the smell of a Tonquin bean. I am quite unacquainted with the element which produces this agreeable odor in the cooked mayua. Nevertheless the boiled tuber is feculent, rich, unctuous, with the taste of a good blue potato, or that of the Cordilleras yellow; that is to say, it approaches the flavor of hard yolk of eggs.

"I consider, therefore, that, under all the circumstances, the mayua may become a culinary plant. The important point is, to persevere, and to vary the cultivation on different soils and in various localities during several years.

"This root is cultivated the same way as the potato. It requires earthing up, and may be trained to stakes or a trellis, or let to run on the ground; I prefer the trellis, as the plant thereby becomes stronger and more luxuriant. It should be set in spring, after the frosts: the tubers form late, and are ripe in October." — *Vermont Union Whig.*

FEEDING AND FATTENING SHEEP.

Perhaps there is no domestic animal that requires more nice and constant attention than the sheep; and no other will more richly pay for generous keeping. Though he may not be more liable to disease, nor require a better quality of food, than neat stock, still that management which will keep cattle in good case will not answer for sheep. His habits and mode of feeding are entirely different. For instance, in the winter season, a cow may be kept tied to the stall twenty-two hours out of the twenty-four, and, if fed three times a day, keeps her flesh and gets sufficient exercise for her health. Serve a sheep in the same manner, and it would probably not live a month. It is natural for sheep to move about and change situation. Turn a flock of hungry sheep into a pasture, and they will run to the end of it before they begin to eat; feed them in troughs, and they will

run over all till they come to the last, when they have it in their power. They are almost continually shifting situation from hill to dale, from one kind of food to another; and it is a fact that sheep will thrive better on two or three different kinds of fodder, than they will confined to one kind that is of a superior quality. — *Prairie Farmer.*

HORN-AIL IN CATTLE.

This is a disease rather prevalent in this part of the country, the actual seat and character of which, I think, is but little understood among our farmers. The horn is not, as is generally supposed, the original seat of the disease, it being merely a continuation of the frontal bones, the sinews of which extend to the very tip of the horn, and in which, with the surrounding membrane, the disease first commences, afterwards extending to the horn. At this time the farmer generally commences his treatment, notwithstanding the disease may have existed several weeks unobserved, the possibility of which I will endeavor to convince him, by relating some of the primary symptoms of this disease — *Horn-Ail*, so called. They consist in impaired appetite, absence of dew upon the muzzle, pulse and breathing accelerated, increased heat of the horns, thirst, and frequent constipation of the bowels. Now, at this stage of the disease, were the farmer or owner to apply the proper remedies, horn-ail would seldom exist. Instead of this being done, little notice is taken of the animal till all the primary symptoms have subsided, and another set show themselves, such as, greater loss of appetite, depression of the spirits, staring coat, wasting of the body, horns cold, discharge from the nose, a dull, spiritless appearance. This morbid change of the parts, having extended to the horn, terminates in suppuration of its softer parts, and consequently the honeycomb-like cells appear empty when bored into with a gimlet — that being the farmer's remedy at this stage of the disease, *generally to him the first stage.* He follows the operation by pouring into the hole some irritating mixture, which seldom proves of any avail. I would not say this is the case with every one, but it is thus too frequently. Some, at an earlier stage, commence giving a dose of purging medicine, applying an external stimulant between the horns, changing the diet for a more laxative one, and one easy of digestion. By these proceedings, in some instances they restore the animal to health; at other times the disease terminates differently, by extending to the organs of respiration, producing catarrh, bronchitis, or even pneumonia, (inflammation of the lungs,) which, if not promptly and properly treated, terminates in death. The causes which give rise to this disease are generally pretended difficult to discover. Yet, upon reflection and inquiry, they are easily traced out. Perhaps the door or window of the cow-house has been left open, and a cold wind allowed to blow directly upon the animals. Perhaps they have been turned out into the yard during a cold storm, supposing that, *they being animals*, it will not hurt them, while they are just as liable to take cold as man, if exposed to the same vicissitudes of temperature. Again: frequently their diet is not sufficiently nutritious to keep up the necessary degree of animal heat to resist the excessive cold of our winters, *for it is at this season when it prevails the most.*

For two years past, I have attended the neat stock belonging to the State Agricultural Society, under the care of E. Phinney, Esq., of Lexington, during which time I have never seen a case of horn-ail, its non-existence being attributable to the comfortable manner in which they are treated.

Another cause of this disease is in the fodder with which the cattle are fed, it being full of dust. In breathing, the dust is drawn up the nose, into the cavities of the head; irritation of the lining membrane is occasioned, and extends till the disease is established in one or all the parts before named.

The treatment I prescribe, when called to animals laboring under this disease, in its primary stages, is to place them in a comfortably warm situation, giving them a clean, dry bed to lie upon, a diet easy of digestion, should they be inclined to eat; a dose of moderately-purging physic, with such medicine, once or twice during the day, as the case may require, and which shall allay fever at the same time, and allow the patient to drink at liberty of cold water. Should I not be called till the disease has assumed a chronic character, I then, after seeing the patient housed comfortably, and giving it a dose of laxative medicine, commence giving one or two doses in the day of cordials, combined with vegetable and in some cases mineral tonics.

There are cases, in some instances, wherein the cure is performed by the operations of nature, and without any aid from medicine. In most cases, however, of this disease, as well as all others, nature can be materially assisted by the timely aid of medicine properly applied. — *Lowell Journal.*

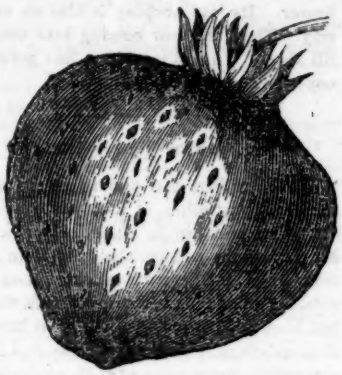
ROOTS FOR STOCK.

Not only the farmer, who unites with his other vocations that of stock-raising, but the mechanic, who keeps but a single cow, should endeavor to supply himself with a sufficiency of roots for winter use. There are several varieties of roots now generally cultivated for this purpose, all of which are, no doubt, possessed of considerable value; yet some are superior to others on account of their greater hardiness, greater yield, or superior richness in the elements of animal food. The carrot, the parsnip, the beet, and several species of the turnip, are cultivated for this purpose, and generally with good success. Indeed, it matters but little whether we raise one or the other, provided we only succeed in obtaining *enough*; this is the main object to be attended to. If we are so circumstanced as to render the production of a crop of English turnips more easy to accomplish than either of the aforementioned ones, and can secure a sufficiency to insure a liberal and constant supply of the roots to our animals during the winter, we ought to be content and thankful; for notwithstanding the amount of nutritive matter in this root is small, compared with that contained in the ruta baga, yet this deficiency may be easily counterbalanced by giving an increased quantity. In this way, the English turnip is made to equal in value other roots, while it is produced at far less expense. When we have the requisite means, we should plant beets, carrots, potatoes, &c., all of which will afford an agreeable, salutary, and palatable diet for neat stock, and are much cheaper than hay and grain in carrying them through the winter. — *Maine Cultivator.*

CAMPHOR TO DESTROY LICE ON CATTLE.

Mr. John Macomber, of Wilton, informs us that for more than ten years past he has used gum camphor, dissolved in New England rum, to destroy lice on cattle. It does the work effectually, as we can testify; it may be applied at all times, even in the coldest weather, without injuring the cattle. On the whole, Mr. M. finds it better, safer, more convenient, pleasanter, and cheaper than any other application he has ever used for the purpose.

A year of pleasure passes like a fleeting breeze, but a moment of misfortune seems an age of pain.



Hovey's Seedling, of the largest size.

Early Virginia, of moderate size.

THE STRAWBERRY.

The strawberry is the earliest of all fruits generally cultivated in this part of the country, and it is one of the most delicious and wholesome. It is cooling and refreshing, and highly acceptable, as it is in use in the hot season when there is a general scarcity of fruits. It is very juicy, rather acid, and remarkably tender, which admirably adapts it to general use in hot weather.

This fruit is easily raised. Any good tillage is adapted to its cultivation, but it pays well for high manuring and thorough cultivation. A deep sandy loam, rather moist, yet well drained, that the water may not stand on it in the winter, is the best soil for strawberries. Large crops are raised in this vicinity on light soils, but on such soils a severe drought may greatly reduce the crop.

The production of the strawberry is large. In some rare cases, the crop has amounted to four thousand quarts to the acre. An average crop is probably less than half this amount, or about fifteen hundred quarts to the acre, selling at twenty to twenty-five cents per box. In some cases the average price of large berries is thirty to thirty-seven cents. The production is so large as to render the crop profitable, whether raised for market or for family use.

The Early Virginia strawberry, represented above, is one of the best and most profitable varieties, and for an early kind, it takes the lead in New England. It is hardy, vigorous in growth, an abundant bearer, and the fruit is excellent.

Hovey's Seedling follows the Early Virginia, in quick succession, and it is distinguished for its large size and productiveness, and the quality is very good. It is a pistillate plant, and requires a staminate variety, or a perfect kind, like the Early Virginia, near it, in order to get a good crop and perfect berries.

These two are the principal varieties cultivated in this region. Many more are on trial, some of which are very promising. An account of the Black Prince may be seen on page 83.

The object of this article is to direct more attention to the cultivation of the strawberry, both for market and for home consumption, where the wild strawberry does not abound. One square rod in the garden will generally yield ten quarts. A friend informed me that he had a good supply for his family, of twenty quarts, from a bed twenty by twelve feet. What a delicious luxury at a small expense!

GOLDEN RUSSET AND RED RUSSET.

Mr. Thomas O. Jackson, of Plymouth, has sent us some American Golden Russet apples, and he inquires whether they are the same as the Red Russet. We reply, that the Golden Russet is a small fruit, in use late in winter and early in spring. The flesh is remarkably tender, and it is of the highest character as to quality. A moderate grown, and good bearer. The Red Russet is as large as the Baldwin; in use in spring, the color mostly bright red, with much russet. Flesh firm, but pleasant, and very good. We know but little of this, as it is new; we only had a few before this season, and now they are too hard for use. We find it a great grower, and it is called a good bearer. We think that it is a cross between the Baldwin and Roxbury Russet. We should prefer the Golden Russet for the private garden, as a table fruit; but the Red Russet will probably be the most profitable for the market, the fruit being much larger, keeping rather longer, and the tree a greater grower. As we know but little about it, we would recommend it for trial only.

APPLES FROM NEWBURGH, N. Y.

By the politeness of Charles Downing, Esq., of Newburgh, we received, early in the winter, a box of several varieties of excellent apples; and as some of them were late, we have delayed noticing them until the greater part have come to perfection. Mr. Downing is extensively known as a very intelligent nurseryman and fruit grower.

Jonathan. — This is a beautiful and excellent apple, of medial size, very popular in some parts of New York, and some other sections of the country, but very little cultivated in New England. In use during the winter. We have never seen this in the Boston market.

Domine. — Medial size, very fair and handsome. Not of a high flavor, but very juicy, crisp, mild, and pleasant. Mr. D. says that it is a favorite with farmers in that region, as it is a very great bearer. In use during winter and into spring. We never noticed but one barrel of these in this market, which we purchased, a few years ago, under the name of "Cluster;" and we kept some of them, in good condition, till July.

Winter Sweet Paradise. — Rather large, yellow, very sweet, tender, and excellent. Comparatively new, and not extensively known, but very promising.

Vandevere. — Medial size, roundish, mostly red; flesh remarkably tender, delicate, and of excellent flavor. Mr. D. regards this as one of the very best winter apples, and these specimens would justify this opinion. It seems to us that the Vandevere of the West must be a different fruit, for there it is not considered first rate, but it is popular from its being a sure bearer, while others are more liable to fail from unfavorable seasons. This is occasionally found in our market, from New York.

Swaar. — This is a large apple, very popular in some parts of New York. It is of the highest quality, being of a fine flavor, and very tender and fine in texture. It is singular that Swaars, grown in New England, though large and fair, and on different soils, are light and poor, and often defective at the core. This is the case with all that we have seen. We think a spurious kind may be cultivated here. It is a large apple, and more smooth, and of a paler color, than those from New York.

Newtown Pippin, Green and Yellow. — In some favorable locations in the Middle States, and in the West, under the best of management, this fruit is tolerably fair and productive, and it is of the highest character, and a long keeper. In England, it is the most celebrated American apple. In New England, it is very uncertain, though some fine fruit may be obtained in a long, warm season. Although there is considerable difference in the form and the general external appearance of these two varieties, some cultivators think that they were originally one. This fruit is hardly ripe enough to use. It keeps till July.

Tewksbury Winter Blush. — Very small and beautiful; yellow, with a bright blush. Not of the best flavor, but remarkable for keeping into summer. Not yet in use. This is rather smaller than the Lady Apple.

Ladies' Sweeting. — Large, very beautiful, and of the highest character. If this apple should flourish in different parts of the apple region in our country, it will doubtless be the most popular of all late sweet apples. It is quite large, remarkably fair, of a bright red color; very sweet, tender, rich, and high flavored. It is a good grower and a good bearer. Its late keeping is also an excellent property. They are now coming into use, and will last till May. We find it to be a fine grower, but it has not been tested in New England.

PEAT ASHES — MARL.

We have from Mr. Calvin Locke, of Ipswich, a sample of peat ashes, of a very fine grit, that bears a strong resemblance to chalk, only of a darker color. Mr. L. informs us that the subsoil in the meadow, from which the peat was taken, is of a greenish color, cuts like butter, and effervesces with vinegar; that it had been used as a manure for grass lands on Captain Holmes's farm, with great success, and its effects were perceptible three years after its application.

This green substance is marl, undoubtedly, as lime is indicated by the effervescence on the application of an acid. It may be equally valuable, for manure, as the green marls of New Jersey, which have been applied to the light soils, so prevalent in that state, and have effected a wonderful improvement.

ACTION OF MANURES.

Too much importance is usually given to the action of manures, as becoming an integrant part of plants. It is true, that a minute portion of some parts of the constituents of manures are taken up by plants, as their destructive analysis will show; but of this small part, its greatest proportion is simply carried mechanically, by capillary attraction, into the ascending tubes and is not chemically combined with the plant, any more than is the water it contains, or than are the burs which sometimes become matted in a cow's tail, a part of the tail.

Still, a part may be, and probably is, combined chemically with the plant, but not to the extent generally supposed. The principal action of manures, is simply to undergo decomposition in soil, and by this decomposition they are resolved into gaseous bodies. These gases rise; and as every cubic inch of solid matter contained in manure will form one to two thousand cubic inches of gases, consequently they must expand. In so doing, the ultimate particles of the soil is disturbed, and thus the spaces between the particles are loosened, and admit the carbonic acid gas; the vegetable retains the principal part of its bulk, which is carbon, and is almost the entire weight of the plant beyond the water.

In farther illustration of these facts, it is well known, that if from a known weight of soil we raise successive crops of grasses for many years, removing half the crops, and ploughing in the other half, that the soil will increase in weight, as well as in power, to produce vegetables, and this, too, without any manure being added.

Suppose a piece of land is capable of producing two tons of clover per acre, and that one ton is removed every year, the other ton returned to the soil, and this process continued for so many years as to have yielded, for removal, fifty tons of clover.

Now where has this immense weight come from? From the soil? No; that is impossible, because you have more soil than when you commenced. Now, as the clover has touched nothing but the soil and the atmosphere, it must have come from the one or the other, and if not from the soil, why, of course, from the atmosphere. — *Working Farmer.*

BARREN SOILS.

This term is often used, and is supposed by many to mean a soil incapable of being rendered fertile. No such soil exists. *Barren*, then, is only applicable when intended to convey the idea of soil which, in its present state, will not repay the cultivator.

The unproductiveness may arise from many causes, but none of them are without remedy. If from a deficiency of some of the earths, let them be added; if from an excess or deficiency of either animal or vegetable matters, the fault is easily corrected; if from stagnant water, either under-drain or subsoil, as may be required; if sand, clay, or chalk be deficient, add them; if either be in excess, add the other two. Peaty soils are generally reclaimed by draining alone; sometimes paring and burning are necessary to induce decomposition of organic matter in excess. The same result can be obtained in most or all cases, by the addition of the salt and lime preparation which we have recommended for composts. When the soils are found to be incompetent to produce any special crops required, the farmer should have them analyzed, and then compare their integrants with those of such soils as do produce the required crop readily. The difference will point out the means which must naturally be resorted to, for the purpose of restoring their fertility.

AN ANCIENT APPLE.

Colonel Samuel Jacques, of the "Ten Hills Farm," near Boston, has presented to the American Antiquarian Society an apple more than fifty-six years old. It was given him on the 12th of September, 1792, as a birthday token, by a lady, the period of whose entrance into life happened to correspond with his own.

The original size of the apple was about that of a large cranberry; and what is somewhat remarkable, it grew out from a small bud starting out of a stout limb, while the rest of the fruit of the tree (the Summer Hervey) was large, the apples weighing from twelve to fourteen ounces each.

This venerable specimen is as well preserved as an Egyptian mummy. It has as many wrinkles as usually belong to extreme old age, and exhibits the complexion to which every thing mortal is wont to come at last. — *Worcester Spy.*

SALT AND SOOT.

The power of soot as a top-dressing to either wheat or pasture land, is materially increased by the admixture of one fourth of common salt. In the fourth volume, p. 270, of the Royal Agricultural Society's Journal, it is stated that fifty-four bushels of soot and six of salt produced larger crops of Altringham and white Belgian carrots than twenty-three tons of stable manure and twenty-four bushels of bones, at half the cost. It is best to hoe the land, where used as top-dressing for wheat, after the soot is spread, as that prevents the evaporation of the ammonia, which is the most essential part of the manure. To mix it with lime is most injurious, as that alkali causes the rapid dissipation of the ammonia. Mr. Dimmery, of Stinchombe farm, in Gloucestershire, uses nothing but soot as a manure for potato crops, which he grows in drills, using soot at the rate of twenty-five bushels to the acre.

HOW TO CATCH HAWKS.

The following ingenious method for destroying these pests to the farmer is given by S. Webb, Esq., of Waldo county, Maine, in a late number of the Belfast Republican: —

"Erect a pole, twelve or fifteen feet high, in a place where there will not be any thing else near for them to light upon, and upon it set a common fox-trap, on which they will light. A strong rat-trap will answer the purpose, by tying it to the pole lengthwise, with the jaws raised above the end, the pole being a little leaning, so that the jaws will not fall together. When one hawk is taken, tie it on the ground near the pole, and its mate will be in the trap in a short time. The season is near for the hawks to reappear, and if farmers do not wish to have their chickens destroyed by them, they will do well to adopt this method of putting a stop to their depredations.

BIRDS.

It is proved that a pair of sparrows, during the time they have their young to feed, destroy, on an average, every week, three thousand three hundred and sixty caterpillars. This calculation is founded upon actual observation. Two parents have been known to carry to their nest forty caterpillars in an hour; and, supposing the sparrows to enter the nest only twelve times during each day, they would cause a consumption of four hundred and eighty caterpillars: this sum gives thirty-three hundred and sixty caterpillars extirpated weekly from a garden. But the utility of the birds is not limited to this circumstance alone, for they likewise feed their young with butterflies and other winged insects, each of which, if not destroyed in this manner, would become the parents of hundreds of caterpillars.

CURE FOR GRUBS IN THE HEAD OF SHEEP.

It was in the latter part of winter one of my flock was taken sick, and became so weak it could not rise without being lifted. I supposed its ailment to be the grub in the head; and knowing something of the virtue of flaxseed oil, I resolved to try an experiment on it. I laid the sheep on its rump, or rather on its back, with its nose a little inclining backwards, and poured in near a tablespoonful of the above oil, part in each nostril. The next morning the sheep was able to get up and eat with the rest of the flock, and speedily recovered. After that, and while I kept sheep, when I discovered any of them snotty-nosed and coughing, (an indication of the grub,) I put a little oil in their noses, as above, and they soon became clean and healthy. I do not remember that I failed in one instance. Some of my neighbors also received benefit by the above process. — *Selected.*

WORK! WORK!

If you would be free, work. When a man stops working, he in effect dies. He starves in the midst of abundance; for what is dyspepsia but the worst sort of starvation? God may have cursed the ground, but he blessed labor. He made man to subdue the earth. Yet he is also the blessed Creator of sleep, of rest, of recess, of mirth, hilarity, and fun. Enjoy superfluity? Yes, but only in one way — helping the needy. Hoarding up a fortune to live in idleness, is not enjoying superfluity, nor rest. It is being miserable, and that no man has a right to be. He who works, and has enough to work with, and is sure of enough to live on while he works, enjoys the conditions of happiness. Idleness is no less a crime in the rich than the poor.

Domestic Department.

Pure Air for Bread. — Bread undergoes a great change for twenty-four hours after it is baked, and chemists have made estimates that during this time it absorbs nutriment from the atmosphere equal to twenty per cent. of its value. Whether these chemical calculations are correct or not, it is evident that a great change takes place in bread immediately after it is baked, and this change is doubtless effected by absorption.

From these remarks it is evident that as soon as bread is taken from the oven, it should be set in pure air. It should not be placed in a cellar, nor in the passage to the cellar, nor in a closet opening into a room much used by the family, as from fires, and from perspiration and transpiration of persons, the air becomes measurably impure.

Education of Farmers' Daughters. — In the families of many farmers there are far too many unproductive hands. In the changes, which, since the introduction of extensive manufactories of cotton and woollen among us, have taken place in our habits of domestic labor, some of the internal resources of the farmer have been dried up, and new occasions of expenditure introduced. I cannot better illustrate this matter than by a recurrence to a conversation which I had with one of the most respectable farmers in the country. "Sir," said he to me, "I am a widower, and have only one daughter at home. I have gone to the utmost extent of my limited means for her education. She is a good scholar, and has every where stood high in her classes, and acquitted herself to the satisfaction of her instructors. She is expert in all the common branches of education. She reads Latin and French; she understands mineralogy and botany; and I can show you with pleasure some of her fine needlework, embroidery, and drawings. In the loss of her mother she is my whole dependence; but instead of waiting upon me, I am obliged to hire a servant to wait upon her. I want her to take charge of my dairy, but she cannot think of milking; and as her mother was anxious that her child should be saved from all hardship, — for she used to say the poor girl would have enough of that by and by, — she never allowed her to share in her labor; and therefore she knows no more of the care of the dairy, or indeed of housekeeping, than any city milliner; so that, in fact, I have sold all my cows but one. This cow supplies us with what milk we want, but I buy my butter and cheese. I told her a few days since that my stockings were worn out, and that I had a good deal of wool in the chamber, which I wished she would card and spin. Her reply was, in a tone of unaffected surprise, "Why, father, no young lady does that; and besides, it is so much easier to send it to the mill, and have it carded there." "Well," I continued, "you will knit the stockings if I get the wool spun?" "Why, no, father; mother never taught me how to knit, because she said it would interfere with my lessons; and then, if I knew how, it would take a great deal of time, and be much cheaper to buy the stockings at the store."

This incident illustrates perfectly the condition of many a farmer's family, and exhibits a serious drawback upon his property, and a great impediment to his success. The false notions which prevail among us in regard to labor, create a distate for it; and the fact that, if the time required to be employed in many articles of household manufacture be reckoned at its ordinary value, the cost of making many articles of clothing would exceed that for which they could be purchased at the store, is deemed a sufficient reason for abandoning their production at home. In many cases, however, the time is turned to no account, but absolutely squandered. But the clothing, if not made, must be bought; and they who might produce it must be sustained at an equal expense, whether they work or are idle. — *Report of the American Board of Education.*

Boys' Department.

Boys should be Mechanics. — Boys should have tools for their own use, and they should be taught to use them, and keep them in order. In this way every boy may learn the use of common tools; and then, in case he is a farmer, he can attend to various mechanical affairs, and not have to spend a few hours' time to procure a mechanic to do an hour's work, as is often the case with the farmer, especially in sections sparsely settled.

Some boys know so little about the use of tools, that their fathers pay a considerable bill annually to furnish them with playthings, when they are big enough to make all carriages, &c., that they need for amusement, if they were furnished with tools, and had but very little instruction.

When a boy is big enough to haul a sled up hill and slide down, he should be capable of making his own sled, and not depend on another. Every boy can do far more than he or his parents are aware of, if he is placed under favorable circumstances for trying, and for developing his mechanical powers.

A farmer once remarked to us that he was in want of a drag at a busy season, and after spending more time in trying to get some one to make it, than would have been required to construct it, he was under the necessity of attempting the job himself; and he succeeded well. Had that farmer been trained to the use of tools in his boyhood, he would have known his ability, and would not have wasted his time in the vain endeavor to procure another to do what he could do himself; and that was doubtless only one among many instances of his depending on others for what he might have accomplished himself at much less expense.

Sympathy. — It is a pure stream that swells the tide of sympathy — it is an excellent heart that interests itself in the feelings of others — it is a heaven-like disposition that engages the affections, and extorts the sympathetic tear for the misfortunes of a friend. Mankind are ever subject to ills, infirmities, and disappointments. Every breast, at some particular period, experiences sorrow and distress. Pains and perplexities are long-lived plagues of human existence; but sympathy is the balm that heals these wounds. If a person, who has lost a precious friend, can find another who will feelingly participate in his misfortune, he is well nigh compensated for his loss. And delightful is the task, to a feeling heart, of softening the painful pillow of disease, of amusing the unfortunate, and alleviating the tortures of the afflicted.

Health.

HEALTH OF CHILDREN. — Rising early is a habit of high importance to fix in children; and in forming it, there is far greater facility than in other cases. There is a natural propensity in children generally to early rising, which needs only to be gratified and encouraged. They usually retire to bed some hours before their parents, and at daylight, or at least sunrise, are generally awake, and anxious to rise. Many of them are actually bred up with difficulty to the habit of taking morning naps, which, when once formed, generally prevail through life. Let his father deny himself so far as to retire early, and become an early riser also. His health, enjoyment, and usefulness, he may depend upon it, will be perceptibly benefited. And this may be connected with another preventive of disease — active employment. The morning is the season for activity; the frame, invigorated by repose, is prepared for exertion, and motion gives pleasure. The pure atmosphere, so much more bracing than at other hours, so much sweeter and more exhilarating than the air of a confined chamber, has been prepared to be breathed; and, like all nature's medicines, it is superior to any which science can produce. Early rising and early exercise might more properly be called food than medicine, as they are designed for daily use, and to protect us from disease rather than to remove it. Every thing, except mere sloth, invites us, nay, requires of us, to train up our children to use them. The morning is the most favorable season for exercising the frame, as well as for making useful impressions on the mind and heart; and whoever tries to conduct the education of his child independently of this practice, will lose some of the most favorable opportunities. — *Dwight's Father's Book.*

RECIPE FOR WHITE SWELLINGS AND FELONS. — To cure white swellings and felons, a correspondent of the South-Western Farmer says, "take copperas, blue stone, alum, table salt, and flowers of sulphur, of each the size of a pea, put them into a four-ounce phial, and fill it with strong apple vinegar, and in twenty-four hours or less it is fit for use. If to be applied to a bone felon on the finger, the skin is to be pared with the razor, the phial being well shaken; wet lint, and apply it three times a day. It will instantly relieve pain, take out the fever, and effect a cure. If a sore leg, the sore must be washed twice a day with Castile soap, — then apply the wet lint." Most bruises and diseases of the flesh may be benefited, and generally cured, it is said, by this application.

Mechanics' Department, Arts, &c.

TIME FOR CUTTING TIMBER. — There are various opinions on this subject; some persons preferring one season, and others another. But nearly all are agreed in the opinion that the spring is an unfavorable season, as the tree is then full of sap. Most mechanics, who attend to wood work, prefer timber that is cut in winter, or late in fall, after the season of vegetation, as it then contains less sap than in spring. If the opinion that it contains less sap in winter than in spring is not correct, it is evident that the sap contained in the timber in winter has a less tendency to decay than that of spring.

Farmers who have cut poles for fencing in spring and fall, and let the bark remain on, have generally observed that those cut in fall last far longer than those cut in spring. Some mechanics, who have cut their timber at different seasons, are decidedly in favor of cutting it in June, when the tree is in its greatest vigor, as it is very durable and heavy. At this period it is supposed that the sap or juices of the tree are thick, or of a mucilaginous substance, and that they become fixed in the wood, and fill up the pores, and add to its weight. June is a favorable time for stripping the bark from trees, and this operation is very necessary when timber is cut in June.

We hope that more experiments will be made on this subject, particularly to show which is the best period for cutting timber — in June, when vegetation is in full vigor; or August and September, when it is less active; or late in fall or early in winter, when the tree is in a dormant state.

EASY METHOD OF BREAKING GLASS IN ANY REQUIRED DIRECTION. — Dip a piece of worsted thread in spirits of turpentine, wrap it round the glass in the direction that you require it to be broken, and then set fire to the thread; or apply a red-hot iron round the glass, and if it does not immediately crack, throw cold water on it while the wire remains hot. Glass that is broken by this means may often be fashioned and rendered useful for a variety of purposes. — *English Paper.*

TO PRESERVE SPECIMENS IN NATURAL HISTORY. — To preserve the skins of animals for exhibition, arsenical soap has been found to be the most perfect guard against vermin, and is prepared in the following manner, viz.: camphor, five ounces; arsenic in powder, two pounds; white soap, two pounds; salt of tartar, twelve ounces; chalk in powder, four ounces. Rub this thoroughly over the inner surface, and afterward stuff the animal for the case.

WATER IN THE ATMOSPHERE.

The watery vapor in the atmosphere exerts an agency in promoting the growth of vegetables, of which few are aware. The effect produced by its descent to the earth, in the form of rain, is obvious to all. The agency which it otherwise exerts, though less marked and obvious, is, perhaps, less important.

It is a well-established fact, that the earth absorbs water from the atmosphere, and that in proportion to its dryness. On the other hand, it is a fact equally well established, that the drier the surface of the earth is, the more abundant is the watery vapor in the atmosphere. This is rather a matter of course, as the water evaporates from the earth into the atmosphere. In a season of great drought, then, the atmosphere is charged with this vapor in a high degree, just at the time when its influence is most needed.

We see the reason, then, why loose, porous soils stand a drought better than close, compact soils. We see the reason also why stirring the earth, in a drought, is so vastly advantageous. There are those who are in the habit of stirring the earth, in a drought, among their crops by ploughing and hoeing, when not a weed is to be seen, on account of its highly beneficial effect.

That the atmosphere pervades the surface of the earth, is a fact too obvious almost to need proof. Its

immense weight, or, in other words, the force with which all things are drawn towards the centre of the earth, by the power of gravitation, is evidence enough of the fact.

It is also an interesting fact, that under the expanding influence of the heat of the day, the atmosphere is inhaled into the earth more abundantly, while, under the contracting influence of the cold of the night, it is emitted from the earth, so that there is a sort of respiration going on in the soil continually, a breathing in of the atmosphere during the day, and a breathing it out during the night.

The watery vapor which is inhaled by the soil, of course, holds in solution more or less of fertilizing matters, as ammonia, carbonic acid, &c., which are thus, to some extent, supplied to the soil. — *Michigan Farmer.*

SIGNS OF A POOR FARMER.

He grazes his mowing land late in the spring. Some of his cows are much past their prime. He neglects to keep the dung and ground from the sills of his building. He sows and plants his land till it is exhausted, before he thinks of manuring. He keeps too much stock, and many of them are unruly. He has a place for nothing, and nothing in its place. If he wants a chisel or a hammer, he cannot find it. He seldom does any thing in stormy weather, or in an evening. You will often, perhaps, hear of his being in the bar-room, talking of hard times. Although he has been on a piece of land twenty years, ask him for grafted apples, and he will tell you he could not raise them, for he never had any luck. His indolence and carelessness subject him to many accidents. He loses cider for want of a hoop. His plough breaks in his hurry to get in his seed in season, because it was not housed; and in harvest, when he is at work on a distant part of his farm, the hogs break into his garden, for want of a small repair in his fence. He always feels in a hurry, yet in his busiest day he will stop and talk till he has wearied your patience. He is seldom neat in his person, and generally late at public worship. His children are late at school, and their books are torn and dirty. He has no enterprise, and is sure to have no money; or, if he must have it, makes great sacrifices to get it; and as he is slack in his payments, and buys altogether on credit, he purchases every thing at a dear rate. You will see the smoke come out of his chimney long after daylight in winter. His horse stable is not daily cleansed, nor his horse curried. Boards, shingles, and clapboards are to be seen off his buildings, month after month, without being replaced, and his windows are full of rags. He feeds his hogs and horses with whole grain. If the lambs die, or the wool comes off his sheep, he does not think it is for want of care or food. He is generally a great borrower, and seldom returns the thing borrowed. He is a poor husband, a poor father, a poor neighbor, a poor citizen, and a poor Christian. — *Baltimore Farmer.*

VALUE OF HUMAN EXCREMENT.

Boussingault says that the excrements of a man for one year contain about twenty pounds of *nitrogen*, a sufficient quantity for the growth of nine hundred pounds — fifteen bushels — of wheat, rye or oats, or for one thousand pounds of barley. And as they can be disinfected and rendered pleasant to handle by admixture with *peat ashes*, all farmers who have peat upon their estates should see that the valuable fertilizer at the head of this paragraph be not wasted, but that it be treated so as to be rendered tributary to the improvement of his land.

If the *peat* in the process of being burnt into ashes be so burnt as to *prevent* the fire from bursting out, a large proportion of the mass will be *carbon*, which will act as a fixer of the volatile part of the nitrogen of the excrement, and, by arresting loss by evaporation, give the property of lastingness to it as a manure, thereby enhancing its value. — *American Farmer.*

WHEAT GROWING IN MAINE.

Mr. Editor: I will now consider one of the obstacles, which some regard insurmountable, to growing wheat in our state, viz., the *rust*. I have not much experience to relate in raising wheat, though I got good wheat for ten or a dozen consecutive years, and never failed of a crop from weevil or rust. I was moderate in my expectations as to amount of crop, and perhaps I should say that three fourths of an acre, upon which I *experimented*, were destroyed one year by the rust, and two acres another year were injured by the weevil, from having departed from my *usual time* of sowing; but both years I got good wheat from other lands. Rust, I think, is caused by the bursting of the vessels of the stalk, from an increase and accelerated action of the sap or vegetative juices during warm and moist weather, when the plant is putting forth its greatest effort to supply the filling kernel. Now, it is apparent that whatever tends to harden the stalk, which is tender from a rapid growth, and prepare it to resist the increased quantity and accelerated action of the sap at the period mentioned, or whatever tends to make more gradual the supply and the increased action, will be likely to effect the object. This may be done by avoiding the use of stimulating manures, such as animal manure from the barn-yard, using vegetable manure and fresh lands, such as greensward, instead of land which has been cultivated and manured with barn-yard manure. On unmanured lands, or those dressed with vegetable manure, the plant will be of slow growth, stock hardy, and the warm and moist weather will not stimulate it to rapid and unhealthy growth. Rich lands are not required for wheat. Land which will produce good oats will grow good wheat. Undoubtedly dressing of the right kind will increase the crop, but even of the right kind, if heavily dressed, will induce rust by causing a rapid growth of the plant; consequently a tender stalk and a particular state of the atmosphere at a certain stage of its growth, will cause it to rust. We should sow on good oat land, moderating our desire of a large crop, and increase the supply by more extensive sowing. I raised from ten to twenty bushels of wheat on greensward, without manure, using a bushel or two of plaster to the acre. Usually I turned under the stubble, and sowed with wheat a second time, and generally got the most abundant yield from stubble ground. One of my best crops was on land where, before ploughing, I did not cut more than five hundred weight of hay to the acre. Plough deep, and if the land is not rich, a good, though not an abundant crop will result. Manure lands, and if a cold, favorable season, a large crop may be expected; if warm and moist, the crop is pretty sure to be lost. On fresh, unmanured lands, except with such manure as the sods will make, you are sure of a crop, be it cold or warm, which will pay the expense of cultivation, always premising you sow sufficiently late to avoid the weevil. — *Maine Farmer.*

THE EUROPEAN MOUNTAIN ASH.

The brilliant apearance of the European Mountain Ash, (*sorbus aucupara,*) when in autumn it is densely clad with its rich crimson fruit, is a circumstance sufficient to give it strong claims to the care of the

arboriculturist, independently of the beauty of its foliage. But a tree, which, from this latter property, has long been a favorite with us, and which, though it is common in Europe, we regret to say, is yet but half so well known as it should be, is the Silver-leaved Abele, (*Populus Alba.*) Its growth is very rapid, and it is, therefore, well adapted for planting where time is an object of consideration. The flowers are insignificant, but its leaves are highly interesting. The under side of each of these is rendered perfectly white by a dense cottony pubescence, and in a gentle breeze, from their being supported on slender petioles, they are in constant motion. At a moderate distance, to a spectator standing on the windward side, they give it frequently the appearance of being covered with a profusion of white flowers. It has a beautiful effect from the house when seen at some distance in the foreground of a handsome group of trees of a darker green. Added to this, it holds its foliage unscathed by the frost, until the very latest period in autumn. — *Prairie Farmer.*

METHOD.

A man has twenty or thirty letters and packets to carry to their several destinations; but instead of arranging them beforehand, and putting all addressed to the same neighborhood in a parcel, he crams the whole into a promiscuous bag. He delivers one letter in one place, proceeds to a remote point with a second, retraces his steps before he can deliver a third, returns to repair an omission, and then performs a transit that might have been saved altogether by a little forecast. Thus it requires two days to perform the business of one. The man who has thoroughly mastered the lesson, "A place for every thing, and every thing in its place," will save a world of time. He loses no leisure seeking for the unanswered letter or the lost receipt; he does not need to travel the same road twice, and hence it is that some of the busiest men have the least of a busy look. Instead of slamming doors, and knocking over children in their headlong hurry, they move about deliberately and carefully, without any expression of haste, anxiety, and tumult; for they have made their calculations, and know that they have ample time to fulfil every duty and every engagement. Those who live without a plan, never have any leisure; for their work is never done — never can be done properly, because the end and the right way to it have not been discerned and pursued without deviations from the beginning.

PATENT OFFICE.

The Patent Office was organized in 1790, and from that time up to the commencement of the present year, 1849, the number of patents issued was about sixteen thousand two hundred. It is an interesting moral deduction, to be able to draw from this statement the fact, that useful invention has kept pace with physical want. Thus the largest class of inventions have been for agricultural improvement; the second, for articles of clothing, or the textile fabrics, and the economies and comforts of imparting warmth to the body.

Destructive inventions have come few and far between, and the whole number has not exceeded two hundred and fifty of the sixteen thousand and upwards which have been granted by the Patent Office. A fact like this speaks well for the triumphs of peace, and of the moral turn given to the inventive genius of the country. Indeed, there is no department of the public service more suggestive of interesting fact than that of the Patent Office.

New York has the honor of receiving almost one third of all the patents granted, and New York city almost as many as the entire slave states. The great bulk of the whole come from the free states — a fact which will suggest others of interest without the necessity of comment. — *New York Express.*

BEAUTIES OF TREES.

What can be more beautiful than the trees? — their lofty trunks, august in their simplicity, asserting, to the most inexperienced eye, their infinite superiority over the imitative pillars of man's pride — their graceful play of wide-spreading branches, and all the delicate and glorious machinery of buds, leaves, flowers, and fruit, that, with more than magical effort, burst from the naked and rigid twigs, with all the rich, and heaven-breathing, delectable odors, pure and animating essences, pouring out spices and medicinals, under brilliant and unimaginably varied colors, and making music, from the softest and most melancholy undertones to the full organ peal of the tempest! We wonder not that trees have been the admiration of men in all periods and nations of the world. What is the richest country without trees? What barren and monotonous spot can they not convert into paradise? Xerxes, in the midst of his most ambitious enterprise, stopped his vast army to contemplate the beauty of a tree. Cicero, from the throng, and exertion, and anxiety of the forum, was accustomed, Pliny tells us, to steal forth to a grove of plane-trees to refresh and invigorate his spirits. In the Scaptan grove, the same author adds, Thucydides was supposed to have composed his noble histories. The Greek and Roman classics, indeed, abound with expressions of admiration; but above all, as the Bible surpasses, in the splendor and majesty of its poetry, all books in the world, so is its sylvan aborescent imagery the most bold and beautiful. Beneath some spreading tree is the ancient patriarch revealed to us, sitting in contemplation, or receiving the visit of angels; and what a calm and dignified picture of primeval life is presented to our imagination at the mention of Deborah, the wife of Lapidoth, judging the twelve tribes of Israel, between Ramah and Bethel, in Mount Ephraim, beneath the palm-tree of Deborah! The oak of Bashan and the cedar of Lebanon are but other and better names for glory and power. The vine, the olive, and the fig-tree are imperishable emblems of peace, plenty, and festivity. David in his psalms, Solomon in his songs and proverbs, the prophets in the sublime outpourings of their awful inspiration, and Christ in his parables, — those most beautiful and perfect of all allegories, — luxuriate in signs and similes drawn from the fair trees of the East.

SULPHUR AND CHARCOAL FOR SWINE.

Let your hogs, at this season, have a plentiful supply of these articles. The former may be administered to them, at proper intervals, in their food; the latter, for convenience sake, may be deposited weekly in their sties. Boxes of the proper size, permanently secured, should be provided for its reception, and kept well replenished with the article, at all times. Salt, also, should be kept by them, or it may be administered as a seasoning to their food. The withholding of this article is, in many cases, attended with fatal results, especially when the animals are kept principally on green and fermentable food. Turn a half pint of salt into a hog's trough, and if his diet has been fresh and unseasoned for some time previous, he will devour it ravenously, and at once. — *Maine Cultivator.*

VERMONT FARMING.

We copy from the National Eagle the following account of successful farming: —

At the annual meeting of the Windsor County Vermont Agricultural Society, held at Woodstock on the 10th January last, premiums were awarded for the following crops of corn, raised the past season, viz.: one acre in Pomfret, one hundred and twelve bushels; one in Springfield, one hundred and ten and a half bushels; one in Hartland, one hundred and eleven and three fourths bushels; one in Woodstock, ninety-nine and seven eighths bushels; and three fields of corn, of four acres each, in Springfield, first one hundred and four bushels to the acre, the two others ninety bushels each to the acre.

The society's premiums were also awarded for the three best managed and most productive farms of the county: First, to J. W. Colburn, of Springfield; second, to James Weston, of Weathersfield; third, to Jonathan Chase, of Springfield. The farm of Mr. Colburn consists of thirty-five acres, only, of mowing and plough land, the remainder being pasture and wood land. The production of these thirty-five acres, the past season, was fifty tons of hay, ten hundred and forty bushels of grain, and twenty-four bushels of potatoes. The yield of hay was all at one cutting; none of the second crop was mowed.

A manifest improvement in all the industrial pursuits never fails to be the result of a well-regulated and well-managed Agricultural Society.

BERKSHIRE HOGS.

I have occasionally seen articles in your paper decrying the Berkshire hogs, principally on account of their want of size. To such people you may say, that I have a barrow three years old, a full-blood Berkshire, which will now weigh nearly one thousand pounds, live weight. He was weighed on the 3d of October, and then brought down eight hundred and eighty; since which he has improved rapidly, and will doubtless reach the above weight. I have had this breed for seven years *pure*, — descended from hogs brought from Albany and Buffalo, and a boar imported by Mr. Fahnestock, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, from England, (the latter a very large animal.) The stock have all been large and very profitable, weighing, at seven to ten months old, from two hundred and fifty to three hundred pounds. Several individuals have weighed over four hundred, and the sire of this present one reached seven hundred and fifty. This is, however, much the largest I have yet raised.

I regret, exceedingly, that the breed is so unfashionable here, that I shall be obliged to look for a cross from other stock. — *Ohio Cultivator.*

SUBSOIL PLOUGHING.

M. B. Bateham: We have tried several of the experiments recommended in the columns of the Ohio Cultivator, and they have all proved real plans of improvement. We tried *subsoiling* last spring, on part of an old field, for corn. The part that was subsoiled gave a fine growth and kept the stalk and blade of corn green and healthy during the dry weather, while the ear and husk ripened perfectly. The corn was cut off about the middle of September, and put in shock, where it stood till the first of November, when it was husked; the fodder, at the time of husking, being perfectly cured, and still of a green color and sweet smell. The kind of corn was not a late variety. That on the part not subsoiled became dry before cutting time, and the corn was not so heavy.

We intend planting fruit trees in the field, and so thought we would try it on a crop or two of grain before setting out the trees.

Our plough is designed to be worked by one yoke of oxen, or two horses. It consists of two strong iron colters fastened to a beam of wood, one on each side, so as to run true. It worked tolerably well, and cost five dollars. — *Ohio Cultivator.*

GENTLE WORDS.

BY C. D. STEWART.

A young rose in the summer time
Is beautiful to me,
And glorious the many stars
That glimmer on the sea;
But gentle words, and loving hearts,
And hands to clasp my own,
Are better than the brightest flowers,
Or stars that ever shone!

The sun may warm the grass to life,
The dew the drooping flower,
And eyes grow bright, and watch the light
Of autumn's opening hour;
But words that breathe of tenderness,
And smiles we know are true,
Are warmer than the summer time,
And brighter than the dew.

It is not much the world can give,
With all its *subtle art*,
And gold or gems are not the things
To satisfy the heart;
But, O, if those who cluster round
The altar and the hearth
Have gentle words and loving smiles,
How beautiful is earth!

THE OLIO.

How beautiful are the smiles of innocence! how endearing the sympathies of love! how sweet the solace of friendship! how lovely the tears of affection! These, combined, are all characteristic of *Woman*. They are the true poetry of humanity — rich pearls clustering around the altar of domestic felicity.

Dr. Franklin, in speaking of education, says, "If a man empties his purse into his head, no one can take it from him."

Truth is a hardy plant, and when once firmly rooted, it covers the ground so that error can scarce find root.

The more business a man has to do, the more he can accomplish.

None of our Relations. — "Mother, who is this *Aunt Arctic*, that they have found down south?" "I don't know — some old maid — none of our relations, that's certain."

TERMS. — The New England Farmer is published every other Saturday, making a neat and handsome volume, at the close of the year, of 416 pages, at $1 a year, or five copies for $4, payable in advance. It may be neatly bound at 18¾ cents, or elegantly bound in muslin, embossed and gilt, at 25 cents a volume.

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